

a polymeric substrate comprising a relaxed oriented film or a relaxed elastomeric substrate; and

a coating coated on at least a portion of the substrate wherein the coating has a projected surface area and a topographical surface area wherein the topographical surface area is greater than the projected surface area.

58. (New) The article of claim 57 wherein the substrate comprises a heat shrink film.

59. (New) The article of claim 58 wherein a reactant is affixed to the coating.

60. (New) The article of claim 59 wherein the reactant comprises an oligonucleotide.

61. (New) The article of claim 59 wherein the reactant comprises complementary DNA.

62. (New) The article of claim 57 wherein the topographical surface area is at least two times greater than the projected surface area.

63. (New) The article of claim 57 wherein the topographical surface area is at least five times greater than the projected surface area.

64. (New) The article of claim 57 wherein the topographical surface area is at least fifteen times greater than the projected surface area.

65. (New) The article of claim 57 wherein the substrate comprises an elastomeric material.

66. (New) The article of claim 65 wherein a reactant is affixed to the coating.

67. (New) The article of claim 66 wherein the reactant comprises an oligonucleotide.

68. (New) The article of claim 66 wherein the reactant comprises complementary DNA.

69. (New) The article of claim 65 wherein the topographical surface area is at least two times greater than the projected surface area.

70. (New) The article of claim 65 wherein the topographical surface area is at least five times greater than the projected surface area.

71. (New) The article of claim 65 wherein the topographical surface area is at least fifteen times greater than the projected surface area.

Support for the new claims may be found throughout the specification including the examples. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the proposed claims do not introduce any new subject matter.

REMARKS

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Ser. No. 09/287,379, filed April 7, 1999 (the '379 application). The claims of the present application are drawn to subject matter recited in claims 57-71 added to the '379 application by preliminary amendment, filed August 23, 1999. Claims 57-71 were canceled from the '379 application as being drawn to a non-elected invention in the Examiner's Amendment that accompanied the Notice of Allowance in the '379 application, mailed October 23, 2001.

Claims 1-56 are in the application.

Claims 1-56 have been canceled.

Claims 57-71 have been added

Claims 57-71 remain under consideration.

Applicants submit that subject matter of new claims 57-71 is novel and nonobvious and, therefore, patentable. Thus, favorable action on the pending claims is kindly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the foregoing preliminary amendment prior to substantive examination is courteously requested. Examination and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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